Telecom Policy

1479. SHRI RAJU PARMAR; Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) wtiether Government are considering to revamp the Telecom Policy;

(b) if so, the complete details thereof; and

(c) whether the private sector and the other institutions would tie consulted before the formation of Telecom Policy and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) In the context of some of the targets of NTP 99 having been achieved and also keeping in view the rapidly changing technology, the Government feel that there is scope and need for revamping the New Telecom Policy 1999. No details have yet been worked out.

(c) Views of various stakeholders would be taken into consideration befbre revamping NTP-99.

Foreign investment in telecom sector

1480. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to invite foreign entrepreneurs to invest in the fast growing telecom sector in India;

(b) if so, the expected amount of investment from foreign entrepreneurs; and

(c) to what extent the telecom sector is expected to be benefited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEELAHMAD): (a) to (c) The entire telecom sector has already been opened up for private sector participation with varying degree of investment by foreign entrepreneurs/ investors, as per the Foreign Direct Investment Policy of the Government Telecom Sector has so far register^ foreign direct investment of Rs. 10,273 crore till August 2004.